Current Events IN REVIEW
by Edward W. Pickard

© Western Newspaper Union.

Civil War in Spain; Likely to Be Long

AFTER more than five weeks of desperate fighting, neither the Spanish loyalists nor the rebels were able to claim a decided advantage, and it became evident that the conflict would be long drawn out if the other European nations could keep aloof. This latter eventuality was made more probable by Adolf Hitler's announcement that the German government had ordered an embargo on arms to Spain. He thus lined his country up with Great Britain and France, and Italy had accepted the French proposal for neutrality, though with some reservations.

These "neutral" nations, however, do not intend to be imposed upon and both the British and the German governments made strong protests to the Madrid government against alleged violation of the freedom of the seas. Five British warships set sail from Gibraltar and Hitler sent seven from the Baltic to enforce the demands that interference with shipping cease. The crews of these vessels were ready for immediate action.

Germany's chief complaint was that the steamship Kamerun had been stopped and searched and not permitted to enter the port of Cadiz, held by the rebels. However, the Kamerun proceeded to a Portuguese port and, according to an American correspondent, there unloaded twenty-three car-loads of war material that was sent across Portuguese territory to the insurgents at Badajoz and Salamanca.

Rebel airplanes made their first attack on Madrid, bombing two airports and allegedly destroying a considerable number of loyalist planes. This was in retaliation for the airplane bombing by the government of open cities held by the insurgents.

Merciless slaughter of captives and hostages on both sides continued. Several Frenchmen who were captured by the rebels while serving with the loyalist troops were executed, and word was sent to France that the same fate awaited any other French nationals caught aiding the Madrid government. The rebel leaders are especially enraged against France, insisting that many French airplanes have been assisting the government and that a powerful force that invaded Mallorca is composed largely of French and Russian volunteers using French munitions.

Couzens for Roosevelt; Colby for Landon

SENATOR JAMES COUZENS of Michigan, a Republican, long noted for his independence of party restrictions and a candidate for renomination on the Republican ticket, has announced that he will support President Roosevelt for re-election. His statement was:

"Believing as I do that the most important matter confronting the nation is the re-election of President Roosevelt, I intend to support him.

"The outcome of my own candidacy for the senate is neither important to the nation nor to me, but I believe it is important that my many loyal supporters in Michigan be advised in advance of the primary on September 15.

"The support for this conclusion will be advanced from time to time between now and election next November."

Former Gov. W. L. Brucker is opposing Couzens for the senatorial nomination.

On the other hand, Bainbridge Colby of New York, who was secretary of state in President Wilson's cabinet, announced that he is for Landon, declaring in a published statement:

"Governor Landon's candidacy carries the hopes of every American who knows what America stands for, and who respects the principles which have brought us to greatness as a nation, and preserved our liberties as self-governing people.

"The thoughtful and independent Democrats throughout the country —and their number is formidable— are determined in this election to rebuke the betrayal of the party by the administration in Washington."

Believes Crop Insurance Can Be Developed

ROY M. GREEN of the Department of Agriculture, who has been conducting a study of the subject of crop insurance, says he is confident a workable form of all-risk crop insurance under federal guidance can be developed. Secretary Wallace and President Roosevelt are deeply interested in the matter.

At least four ventures by private companies into this field in the last thirty-seven years have met with either bankruptcy or a lack of public acceptance, Green said, but added that a study had revealed flaws which could be avoided.

Green contended these efforts failed because they were "income, not crop insurance." By having farmers pay their premiums in grain, and by paying losses the same way, he argued, the danger of price changes would be eliminated.

Death of Floyd B. Olson, Minnesota Governor

FLOYD B. OLSON, Farmer-Laborite governor of Minnesota and candidate for the United States senatorship, died of stomach cancer

F. B. Olson

after a courageous fight. He had been ill for months but had kept up his executive and campaign activities as best he could until the end. Hjalmar Peterson, lieutenant governor, succeeds him as governor, but at this writing there is doubt as to whom the party's

state central committee will select to make the race for the senatorship. Francis H. Shoemaker of Duluth announced his candidacy immediately, and two other men were being considered—Senator Elmer A. Benson, now a candidate for governor, and Representative Ernest Lundeen of Minneapolis.

On his deathbed Olson pledged his personal support to the New Deal in the November election, and it is presumed the Farmer-Laborites of his state will largely conform to that stand.

Plotters Against Stalin Are Executed

SIXTEEN men, arraigned in Moscow on charges of plotting the assassination of Dictator Joseph Stalin and the seizure of power in the Soviet republic, pleaded guilty. Two of them, Gregory Zinoviev and Leo Kamenev, were members with Stalin 13 years ago of a triumvirate that governed Russia and are well known to the outside world. The confessions did not end the trial, for the defendants contradicted and accused one another until the case was a jumble. Some of them, like Zinoviev, proudly accepted responsibility for the plot, which was said to have been engineered by the exiled Leon Trotzky.

All sixteen were declared guilty and executed by a firing squad.

The government said one woman, the government announced, were held for examination until probable trial. Some of these were involved by the confessions of the sixteen executed.

Prosecutor Vishinsky said Grigory Sokolnikoff, former ambassador to the court of Great Britain, and M. Seredyakoff, a former vice minister of communications, were under criminal charges. Under investigation, he said, were Nicolai Bukharin, editor of the government publication Izvestia; Karl Radek, prominent soviet commentator; Iuri P. Tomsky, former chief of trade unions and now head of the state publishing house; Alexei Rykov, commissar of posts and telegraphs, and Gregory Piatakoff, assistant commissar for heavy industry.

In the case on trial the defendants revealed that not only were they plotting the assassination of Stalin and four others, but planned also to betray Trotzky and place Zinoviev and Kamenev in supreme power.

Trotzky, at Hoenefoss, Norway, scoffed at the Moscow proceedings as "humbug." "For political vengeance," he said, "the trial puts the Dreyfus scandal and the reichstag fire in the shadow."

Phillips Is Appointed Ambassador to Italy

WILLIAM PHILLIPS, who has been undersecretary of state, has been appointed ambassador to Italy and will sail for Rome on September 9. Mr. Phillips is considered one of the most efficient men in the diplomatic service, which he entered 33 years ago as private secretary to Consul Gheat, ambassador to Great Britain.

Rich Cargo of Sealskins From Pribilof Islands

SEALSKINS valued at $1,750,000, the season's take from the Pribilof islands, arrived at Seattle aboard the navy transport Vega. Seventy per cent of the cargo of 52,466 skins will go to the United States, 15 per cent to Great Britain, and a like amount to Japan under the terms of the international sealing treaty. Skins were taken from young male seals on the Pribilofs in Alaskan waters where the seals go annually to breed.

The skins for the United States and Japan will be processed in St. Louis and sold at auction. Great Britain's share goes to London.

Blanton Loses His Seat in Congress

TOM BLANTON of Abilene, Tex., veteran ranter in congress, has lost his seat in that body and says he will return to the practice of law. For twenty years, with one brief interlude, he has represented his district in the house but in the run-off Democratic primary, which is equivalent to an election there, he was beaten by Clyde L. Garrett of Eastland, a county judge. Returns to the state election bureau gave Garrett 33,314 votes to 16,218 for Blanton. Garrett's campaign platform calls for "more jobs and less dole," adequate care for veterans of all wars and the merit system for all postmasters.

Last hours of the campaign were enlivened by a dispute over a telegram purporting to give Blanton the indorsement of James A. Farley, chairman of the Democratic national committee. Farley denied sending such a message and Blanton charged political enemies had sent it to embarrass both himself and Farley.

Hungary Honors Memory of Gen. Bandholtz

WHEN Brig. Gen. Harry H. Bandholtz, U. S. A., was head of the international allied commission in Hungary, in 1919, a band of Rumanians undertook to plunder the national museum in Budapest. But the doughty American, armed only with a riding whip, faced the mob and dispersed it. Bandholtz died in 1925, but Hungary has not forgotten him, and the other day with much ceremony they unveiled a memorial statue of the general with the whip in his hand.

Benes Promotes Friendly Relations With Germany

NEITHER Fascism nor Communism will be tolerated in Czechoslovakia, which is "a firm, indestructible lighthouse of democracy," said President Eduard Benes in a speech at Reichenberg. But he told the German minority which he was addressing particularly, that he hoped in the fall "the Nuremberg powers will be able to work out a real European co-operation and that good neighborly relations will be established between Germany and Czechoslovakia."

President Benes

Leaders of the German minority in Czechoslovakia charge that unemployment in that part of the country is greater than anywhere else in Czechoslovakia. Figures employed per 1,000 population, compared with the state average of 38 per 1,000.

They charge that this is partly the result of the government's failure to place orders in German Bohemian factories and failure to give state tobacco to members of the German minority.

German Pastors Denounce Nazi Church Rule

BOLDLY defying the Nazi government, hundreds of German Evangelical pastors thundered from their pulpits against the Nazi leaders who, they said, are trying to drive Christianity out of Germany. They protested vigorously against governmental interference in the affairs of the Protestant Evangelical church and demanded that such interference cease. More than a month ago the preachers sent a list of their grievances to Reichsfuehrer Hitler, but he did not even reply, so they decided to make the protest public at church services.

France's Maginot Line Is Given a Test

DURING the fall maneuvers France has been testing the strength of its new fortifications along the German frontier — the Maginot line. In the Montmedy region the elaborate system of concrete strongholds was subjected to an "enemy" attack, and observers said the assailing troops, armed with the newest and speediest equipment, were able to penetrate the line only at a few places and in small numbers. Reservists from the interior of France had moved up to occupy the line in thirty-six hours. Watching the "battle" was a delegation of generals from Soviet Russia, with which nation France has a defensive military alliance.

Danish Princess Engaged to Bavarian Count

PRINCESS ALEXANDRINE LOUISE of Denmark, one of the few young ladies considered eligible to be the bride of King Edward VIII of England, is going to marry Count Luitpold Zu Castell-Castell of Bavaria. The princess, handsome and twenty-one years old, is the daughter of Prince Harald, brother of King Christian of Denmark.

Navy Building Bids Show Costs Have Gone Up

STARTING its 1937 building program, the Navy department opened bids on twelve new destroyers and six submarines. The bids came from private shipyards and estimates were submitted by navy yards, according to law. The latter were not made public.

It was found that the cost of construction has advanced approximately $1,000,000 per vessel in the last year.

"The Man Who·O·O"

Tales and Traditions from American Political History

BY FRANK E. HAGEN AND ELMO SCOTT WATSON

THE ORIGIN OF "RUCKERIZE"

AMONG the odd political factions of a century ago it frequently was the practice to pack, or "ruckerize" a convention with delegates favorable to their candidates.

Of course it isn't done today, what with committees on credentials and all, but let's have a peek at the Democratic convention of 1835 and see how the expression to "ruckerize" originated.

Doughty old Andrew Jackson was determined, despite spreading opposition in his own party, to pass on the presidential mantle to Martin Van Buren of New York. He first sought to calm the Democratic opponents of Van Buren and allay their fears of the Jackson autocracy. Next he issued a call for a party convention to be held in Baltimore in May, 1835, eighteen months before the election. It was the first of the so-called "snap" conventions and its advantages are obvious.

More than 400 of the 622 delegates who attended, history relates, were from four states over which Jackson exercised absolute control. No one was permitted to make a speech and there was no platform adopted. Speeches, it was explained by the chairman who presided, might provoke angry discussion and prevent the harmony it sought.

With none but the Jackson lieutenants permitted to talk, the nomination of Van Buren became a simple matter. In fact, he was named on a single ballot.

The embarrassing part to Jackson before the vote was cast was that no delegates were in attendance from Alabama, Illinois, South Carolina or Tennessee, the latter, as everyone knows, being his home state.

So when Tennessee was found to be absent, because of the split in the party inimical to Van Buren, Jackson's lieutenants went into the streets of Baltimore and looked around. Presently the first Tennessean they encountered, brought him into the convention hall and had him cast 15 votes in behalf of Tennessee.

The man's name happens to have been Edward Rucker and for years afterward Van Buren's followers, not unnaturally enough, the packing of a convention.

MAKING OF A STATESMAN

AS DESTRUCTIVE as war, is its bringing or its imminence has revealed an unselfish devotion to duty and a high character as a bright light in American politics.

Stephen A. Douglas, "Little Giant" of Illinois, is the man who became a statesman, back in 1860, and helped elect an opponent!

Two years before, in 1858, Douglas and Abraham Lincoln had stumped Illinois in a series of debates that had drawn the attention of the entire country. Douglas was then a national figure by his adroitness in forcing Douglas to admit that the Dred Scott decision on slavery destroyed Douglas' "squatter sovereignty" theory. Douglas saved Illinois for himself by his reply but he had alienated the support of the South.

So when the returns were in, following the 1860 conventions, Lincoln and Hannibal Hamlin was the Republican ticket; Douglas and Herschel V. Johnson nominated by the Northern Democrats; John C. Breckenridge and Joseph Lane, the Southern Democrats, and John Bell of Tennessee and Edward Everett of Massachusetts carried the colors of the new Constitutional Union party.

This split in his party's ranks was a revelation to Douglas. Republicans scoffed at him thus:

"His views were short, but his speeches they were long, And nothing but himself he could see;

His principles were weak, but his fear

For a thirsty little soul was he."

But Douglas showed them up for what they were.

Realizing the election of Lincoln was inevitable, he cast aside his own candidacy, made a speaking tour through the South. "We must save the Union," he urged them there. "Lincoln is the next President."

The South, true to its convictions on states' rights and slavery, held aloof from Lincoln, who failed to carry a single state below the Mason and Dixon line. But when Lincoln stood on the Capitol steps to take the oath of office, Stephen A. Douglas stood beside him and held the hat of the newly-sworn President.

© Western Newspaper Union.

The First Psychologist

The history of psychology may be said to begin with Plato, who was the first influential scientist to draw a clear distinction between the mind and the body. Aristotle went farther than Plato in distinguishing different faculties of the mind and attempted to solve the relation of the mind and the body. His acute analysis of the human organism, "De Anima," remained the standard work on psychology for nearly 2,000 years.

FABLES IN SLA

By GEORGE ADE

© Bell Syndicate

"You Are Sitting There With a Dirty Look in Your

BEING CORRECT AND PROPER

ONCE there was a Man named Alonzo Frothingham whose wife used to bawl him out something scandalous on account of his crude Manner of Speech and his Penchant for using all of the Smart Aleck Slang he could pick up. Even when Company was present he made no apparent effort to recognize the Presence of the Dominie or the College Profs, but seemed to take a keen Delight in Getting right out in front of them, "Not on your Whistle," he would say, "do you get that Way?" or, possibly "I'll tell the cock-eyed World." He was sure an Injun.

The wife, whose front name was Mehitabel, often told him that one reason why she let out such a Yelp about his Coarse Language was that he had no Excuse for pulling the Hick Stuff. He had been incubated in an Atmosphere of Culture, and had attended the State University.

He had read all the Works of Sir Walter Scott and Robert W. Chambers. He had delivered Orations which were Scholarly and full of such Words as "Ergo" and "Vouchsafe," "Eleemosynary" and "Perambulature," so what was the Sense or Idea of trying to make folks think he was a Longshoreman?

No matter how thoroughly a Lady is on to his Permanent Affliction and however low may be her Estimate of his Moral Grandeur and Intellectual Prowess, she always wants to be loyal to his Name and spread the Impression among the Neighbors that he is a Combination of Daniel Webster, Calvin Coolidge, the Pope, ex-President Eliot and Dr. William Lyon Phelps at Yale. He may be a Mutt at Home but when he gets to the Bench Show he is a World's Champion with a Silk Rope around his Neck.

Now there was simply no Let-up to Mehitabel ragging Alonzo on account of his Predilection for the Lowbrow Vernacular.

She dinged at him so long that finally he made what is known as the Marital Sacrifice. Compromise, I. e., he decided to let her have her own way in Everything. She said he would Chop out the Chuck Connors Dialect and make Lindley Murray sound like a Yiddisher.

VERBAL AVALANCHE

At that, the Good Wife was not prepared for the Verbal Confectionery which he began to lavish upon her. For instance, they were seated at the Dinner Table and she wanted to know if he had put in a pleasant and profitable Day, whereupon he replied: "On the Contrary, I am pleased to be invited to a series of rather harrowing Experiences, all tending to disturb my Calm and ruffle what is, under all but Abnormal Circumstances, a truly Angelic Temper."

"Have you gone off your Nut?" asked Mehitabel.

"No ma'am, I am trying to let you know Everything went Punk with me today, but I am endeavoring to convey that Information in Language so chaste and dignified that even my best Pal and severest Critic cannot find Fault with her little Alonzo."

"You can lay off the cheap and rowdy Expressions without trying to make a Spoil of the Dictionary," suggested friend Wife.

"Unfortunately I cannot do so," he replied. "There doesn't seem to be any happy Compromise between Slang and Jaw-breakers. When one decides to correct his manner of Speech by refraining from the current Catch-Phrases of the Street, the homely Colloquialisms and all of the barbarous Americanisms which are so repulsive to High School Superintendents, he finds himself at once imbedded in a Bog of Polysyllabic Circumlocutions."

"Slip me that La[w]," said Mehitabel. "I [w]as endeavoring to suggest that [w]e don't carry gloves [t]oo," Luis added, "unless you can find a way out of it."

Winslow's hand closed tightly.

"Julie was upstairs, asleep," he said. "She'd left me an hour before, radiantly happy. I went to see Kelly. Heaven knows what I intended to do. Certainly not murder. I was about to ring the bell, when I saw the key in the door, and used it. Kelly was talking to Hambidge. I recognized the Judge's voice, and slipped into the dining room. Listening, I learned why he had written that decision. And I heard Kelly say, 'If it ain't filed by noon today, I'll have your sister-in-law arrested for bigamy.'

"Hambidge said, 'You can do what you like; I won't file it.'

"The cut-glass decanter was on the table in front of me. I picked it up, almost mechanically. Kelly was in the hall then, shouting 'squealers' and 'beat it.' I suppose I had some vague idea of helping my brother-in-law. I don't know. Anyway, I opened the door between the dining room and the drawing room. And, as I did so, Kelly came in from the hall, closing that door behind him. His left hand was still on the knob when he saw me.

"'More squealers?' he shouted. 'Witnesses! So you heard, did you? Well, by God, you're not going to tell any body!'

"He lifted his right hand, and there was a revolver in it.

"Another instant, and he'd've fired.

"I hurled the decanter.

"It was just Instinct. I didn't take aim. There wasn't time. If I meant to do anything, it was to hit his gleaming head, probably, for it landed against a metal door-hinge, rebounded, fell into a chair, and rolled off to the floor. A moment afterward, Kelly went down in a heap.

"He wasn't dead. A long way from it, for the gun had dropped out of his hand, and he reached for it. I picked it up. Ten seconds later, Hambidge was on the other side of that door, trying to open it, and calling Kelly. I turned the lights out. Hambidge left. I put the revolver into my pocket, and got the certificate out of Kelly's. There was a white push-button in the frame. I pressed it—or thought I did.

"It never occurred to me that Kelly was anything more than stunned. I went home, and burned that marriage certificate. There was no other record; I'd made sure of that. A few hours later, Hambidge phoned to say he'd filed his decision. There was nothing about Kelly in the morning paper. I'd no idea he was dead until long after dinner last night at Smithampton."

Barry nodded.

"Of course, my first impulse was to give myself up," Winslow said. "But what good would that've done? They couldn't convict me. I'd killed in self-defense, and could come mighty near proving it. But, in doing so, I'd've given away the secret I'd struggled to keep all these years. I'd've smashed Julie utterly, and ruined Hambidge, and Pat. Nobody was harmed by my keeping my mouth shut. There wasn't a chance of their finding Bidder guilty, or anyone else. If they'd done that, I'd've confessed in a moment."

"I know," Barry declared. "That's what you meant when you said, 'If we all of my free hand, and of my Fingers crossed, and Fate were kind and Perhaps I could get away with it.' For nearly One Second nearly as I can estimate, Lincoln was the most unpopular man in the United States. Even Abraham Lincoln, Jr., Fifth. Up to the Honeymoon explained that he was going to give me a Spectacular Inferiority Complex because I used to be the Julie's Hero because I used to be the Dubs with what I pelled to associate with Dubs, or make it out that I headed Moron.

NOT IN THE CARDS

"At this Junction I should be singing Swan Song, but instead, I'm going to let the Life Insurance Companies have it out with the Life Expectancy Tables. Here I am, a Dub with a Dub Education, a loathsome Reptile in the Eyes of Society, a dandy little Fellow to have around the House, and a Total Loss, according to the Actuarial Tables. Why, I'm not even entitled to be classified as a Poor Risk. I'm not in the Cards at all. I'm not figured in the Deal. I'm not even in the Game. I'm not entered in the Race. I'm not in the Betting. I'm not a Contender. I'm not a Starter. I'm not even a Has Been. I'm not a Candidate for Anything. I'm not a Member of the Party. I'm not a Subscriber to the Fund. I'm not a Life Member. I'm not a Delegate. I'm not a Speaker. I'm not a Booster. I'm not a Knocker. I'm not a Spectator. I'm not a Fan. I'm not a Player. I'm not a Manager. I'm not a Umpire. I'm not a Rooter. I'm not a Substitute. I'm not a Coach. I'm not a Mascot. I'm not a Bat Boy. I'm not a Groundkeeper. I'm not a Scorer. I'm not a Ticket Seller. I'm not a Ticket Taker. I'm not a Usher. I'm not a Program and Score Card Seller. I'm not a Peanut Vender. I'm not a Hot Dog Vender. I'm not a Soda Pop Vender. I'm not a Chewing Gum Vender. I'm not a Cigar Vender. I'm not a Cigarette Vender. I'm not a Chocolate Vender. I'm not a Candy Vender. I'm not a Fruit Vender. I'm not a Sandwich Vender. I'm not a Lemonade Vender. I'm not a Beer Vender. I'm not a Whiskey Vender. I'm not a Bootlegger. I'm not a Gangster. I'm not a Racketeer. I'm not a Kidnaper. I'm not a Murderer. I'm not a Suicide. I'm not a Corpse. I'm not a Ghost. I'm not a Spook. I'm not a Spirit. I'm not a Memory. I'm not a Shadow. I'm not a Nothing. I'm not a Nobody. I'm not a Has Been. I'm not a Never Was. I'm not a Never Will Be. I'm not a Never Can Be. I'm not a Never Could Be. I'm not a Never Should Be. I'm not a Never Would Be. I'm not a Never Might Be. I'm not a Never Must Be. I'm not a Never Ought To Be. I'm not a Never Shall Be